

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG SAN DIEGO COUNTY RESIDENTS, 2003-2005

Rank, Number and Percent of Deaths, and Age-adjusted Rates

RANK in 2005 ^a	RANK in 2004 ^a	CAUSE OF DEATH ^b	NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DEATHS								AGE-ADJUSTED RATES ^c		
			2003		2004		2005		2003-2005		2003	2004	2005
			n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%			
1	1	Diseases of heart	5,404	27.2	5,228	26.5	5,088	26.0	15,720	26.6	200.0	183.7	172.6
2	2	Cancer (any)	4,715	23.7	4,631	23.5	4,664	23.9	14,010	23.7	176.5	166.3	163.1
3	3	Cerebrovascular disease	1,521	7.7	1,423	7.2	1,218	6.2	4,162	7.0	56.2	49.8	41.3
4	5	COPD/Chronic lower respiratory diseases	1,067	5.4	1,066	5.4	1,128	5.8	3,261	5.5	39.8	38.3	39.1
5	4	Alzheimer's disease	1,004	5.1	1,106	5.6	1,094	5.6	3,204	5.4	36.8	38.1	36.0
6	6	Unintentional injuries	807	4.1	863	4.4	868	4.4	2,538	4.3	27.7	28.6	28.5
7	7	Diabetes mellitus	499	2.5	531	2.7	604	3.1	1,634	2.8	18.6	19.1	21.1
8	8	Influenza & pneumonia	579	2.9	477	2.4	428	2.2	1,484	2.5	21.2	16.6	14.3
9	9	Suicide	326	1.6	311	1.6	297	1.5	934	1.6	11.2	10.4	9.9
10	10	Essential (primary) hypertension and hypertensive renal disease	227	1.1	262	1.3	277	1.4	766	1.3	8.3	9.1	9.4
11	12	Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	296	1.5	247	1.3	252	1.3	795	1.3	10.8	8.7	8.6
12	11	Parkinson's disease	206	1.0	258	1.3	220	1.1	684	1.2	7.6	9.1	7.5
13	13	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	149	0.8	185	0.9	183	0.9	517	0.9	5.6	6.5	6.3
14	17	Atherosclerosis	127	0.6	123	0.6	131	0.7	381	0.6	4.7	4.3	4.3
15	16	Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	113	0.6	128	0.6	129	0.7	370	0.6	3.7	4.0	3.9
		All Other Causes	2,824	14.2	2,862	14.5	2,973	15.2	8,659	14.6			
		TOTAL DEATHS	19,864	100.0	19,701	100.0	19,554	100.0	59,119	100.0	730.5	691.6	666.0

^a Rank is based on total number of deaths in each of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) "rankable" categories. The top 15 leading causes of death presented here are based on the county-wide rank among San Diego residents in 2005.

^b Cause of death is based on the underlying cause of death reported on death certificates as classified by ICD-10 codes.

^c All rates are per 100,000 population and are adjusted to 2000 Standard U.S. Population. Rates may vary slightly from previously published data due to updated population estimates.

Source: California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Death Statistical Master Files; SANDAG January 1 population estimates (2003 estimates rel. 2006, 2004-05 estimates rel. 2007)
Prepared by Community Epidemiology, Health & Human Services Agency, County of San Diego, 02/20/2008